BUENOUS MEGANGES AND BUILDING STREET AND COMPANY OF THE REST OF TH

\$10,000 for 1,000 Words or Less

for an Idea for a Sequel to

"THE DIAMOND FROM THE SKY"

The American Film Manufacturing Company's Picturized Romantic Novel in Chapters.

This contest is open to any man, woman or child who is not connected directly or indirectly with the Film Company or the newspapers publishing the continued story.

You are advised to see the continued photoplay in the theaters, read the ory as it runs every week, and then send in your suggestion. By following the narrative in print and observing the action on the screen, you will be given a splendid opportunity to supply a suggestion for a sequel.

A board of three judges will decide which of the suggestions received is most acceptable. The judgment of that board will be absolute and final.

SPECIAL NOTICE:

Suggestions for a sequel will be accepted up to and including February 20. 1916. As it is the IDEA that is wanted, no attention, will be paid to literary style. Contestants must confine their contributions to 1,000 werds or less. Send all suggestions to THE AMERICAN FILM MANUFACTURING COMPANY, 6227 BROADWAY, CHICAGO, ILL.

SUMOPELS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

A negro boy hunting owls finds in a next in the top

Blair Stanley beats Bagar over the head with a

poler, takes from her tile fluger print photographa that establish his guilt, and flees, I sering Hagar im-baltomed in mind. At Studiey hall Hagar, still men-tally unbalanced, cries out for her child, but nobody

gives any exercise to what she says. In the mean-whill Marmaduke Smythe copies to inform young

Arthur Stanley that he is helr to the Stunier cari-

dom and the Warwickshire estate. Learning of the accessitions against Arthur, Smythe says that the

and sets out to find him at the home of Mrs. Burton. Rund-liph in Richmond. Esther and Dagar beave Stanley hall, accompanied by Quabba, who drives off the stateter Luke Loveit. Biair, taking great chances

of detection, from up in Richmond, lared by the adventuress. Vivian Marchin, for whom he promises to

get the distance from the sky if she will be his wife, inn also callets the libera brothers, gamblers, and Einke, a detective, in get the jewel. The jewel itself, in Arthur's old dress soft is found by the train Strain Mostle, who is later moral-red and robbed of the rem in the Chaose den of Long Hip Later, in

Lung Lie place, a tolef steals the jewel from the eye

Blair, having invaded the den and stelen the dia-m nd, secures Vision's premise to marry him and dee

the country. Just as the minister is about to pro-nounce from min and wife a detective arrives, de-

march the diamend, and arrests Mair for the morder of Dr. Lee. But Diair is too quick for him, fisors the detective, and he and Vivian, beying effected dis-

gulses, escape on an outgoing train. In the mean-

which results in Esther's learning the Stanley secret

from camp by the gapsies, attempts to take possession by force with a borde of tramps, but Quabba frustraise the attempt by mulling a stone slown the mountaincide and denoishing the camp. Arthur, over

beauing a plot to r.b the Overland Hinfred, attempts to prevent if by trying to eater the train as he rides

playedde it, but he is thrust from the platform and

falls in couldle by the track. Vivian and Hinir are on

found that Luke Lovell evidently had been

only stunned and not killed, as was at first

supposed. For when the gypsies returned, after making rude shelter tents away from

the rubble of the landslide for Esther,

Hagar, and their children and women tolk.

no trace of Lovell could be found. He had

recovered consciousness, it was evident, and had stolen away, fearful of the

vengeance of his former Romany asso-

Quabba deemed it best to keep secret the

of a tree the Diamond from the Sky, which Quebba's monkey had taken up there and deposited for an egg

A birrer fend, regendered over an heirborn, "the girl of in Distincted surjety and are received in Standigmond from the Spy" feethd in a meteor by an ancert. r. has exhaed between Col. Arthur Stabley and his occain, Judy Larray Stanley. The fout is any mented by the fall that the succession to the Stan-Ly carldon in Figural may come to an American family. When less wife dies after having given blota. to a daughter Col. Stanley buys and substitutes ashelr a new) - group buy. Three years later the many member of the the colonel is daughter, who is "distribut from the ply " and a document that hobbs the secret of the false belo.

Wh n the daughter, Eather Stanley, whom Hagar has grown to love, given up lingur returns to Virgints with low, hoping to right the wrong does her said that she has does. She obtains the connect of 10. Let, C.1. Straie would friend, to adopt Eather to 11s Amplifer in the hope that Hughe's son, the supposed Alaber Stanley IL will fall in live with Esther and no all will become mistress of Stanley hall, which is her right. Dr. Lee eases as his conthing the left right, for the case as as con-dition that he hope in cost by the fairful discussif. Or, her words livery that her see is a prefigule, and for latter, but she hopes for the best. Arthur folls in live wire letter, as does his best convenient. Distr Scales, the constant who would be the rightful Distr Scaller, the conting with which to the

In order clare to steal the dominant from Dr. Lee, Plair causes the double of the old double. Arthur Stanby mean on the open of the number. In the logic that to not him off escape and that Blair will live a circle response to the first term with the base left a first conservation to the Blair and crowns Estler Queen of Love and Beauty. Blair, jealous of the honor which be wish-1 to confer upon Vivino Marrien, an adven-torers, tetrays Arthur. While the sheriffs are being Quabba, an organ grinder, handends the

sheriff . Blair and thus enables Arthur to escape. Arriver finding that a clubman who has been bund-ing at the bounds has be a killed by the limb of a ing of the bounds has be a sincer of the facts of a tree changes appared with him, and when the poses rates — the stead body is faken to Stanley hall hif or it is recognized that it is not Arthur's. Arthur thus challer the posset. In the meantime Hugar through a deterine, has secured fager prints which said in hi-ling a gulk and Arthur's innocence of the families. The response to Diair's mather not to divide her secret on condition that Hagar and Eather are estab-

> [Copyright: 1915: By Roy L. McCardell] CHAPTER 19.

OLD POIS WITH NEW PACES. FFLICTED as he was with his de-formity, Quabba, the hunchback-he of the sunny face and happy heartwas as agile and as sinewy as the monkey Clarence, his companion on his way through the world. But t hunchback is neither sunny of face nor happy of heart. A wild tremor of fear, anxiety, and remorse shakes him in an ague of terror and confusion.

Sending the rocking stone, pried from the perch where it had swayed for centuries, had only meant death for all below, thought Quabba. Instead of saving his young and old mistress and his gypsy friends from the raid of desperate tramps led by Luke Lovell, Quabba now deemed that he had destroyed those he had loved, as well as their enemies.

But as he ran panting down the mountain side Quabba saw that some of the gypsies, warned by the clatter and roar of the landslide the massive, bounding, loosened, rocking stone had started, had fled to safety. He saw some half score of gypsy men and women tolling rapidly up the opposite slope of the valley from the destroyed gypsy Through the dust that was settling in a cloud over he debris and rubble where the camp had stood the straining eyes of Quabba could mark the ragged figures of some of the assaulting tramps limping away from the scene of destruction, as bootless as they had come.

Then as he neared the scene the anguished Quabba could mark that the fleeing gypsies had paused half way up the opposite slope and had nerved themselves to return to their submerged, annihilated With an aching heart and a great camp. burning sense of reproach for his rash deed that had worked such ill when he had meant but good, Quabba could see that Esther and Hagar were not among the hysterical gypsics returning to the scene of destruction.

When Quabba reached the heaps of stone and wreckage that had been the camp site he found the gypsies already gathered in a group to where the van of Hagar lay over-turned and half covered by a mass of rocks and earth. Then his heart beat again with joy as he heard the voice of Eather, tremulous, yet brave for all that, issue from bemeath the van. "If you are friends, save us," was Esther's cry. Strong and willing hands toro at the heaped up rock and rubbla, and strained and lifted at the van.

Scon the van was raised from over the carity its very overturning had supplied. There were Esther and Hagar, trembling but unhurt save for a few minor scratches and brulses, but in the bottom of the cavity lay the bulky form of Luke Lovell, stark and lifeless. Kindly hands drew Hagar and Esther out, and Quabba fell at their fest, uttering incoherent self-acqueations mingles with equally incoherent thanksstrings. A kindly hand threw a coat series the innalmate face and form of the

The saving of gypsy lives was due to the providential fact that the custaught of the marauding tramps led by Lovell had driven the gypsisa from the danger zone where the avalanche of stones and earth had atruck the camp. How many of the invadslide the philosophical grpsies neither cared nor sought to accertain. It was later

the tramps who had attacked the camp with him and might have escaped unburt from Quabba's landslide. Luke stole away unobserved, and his one thought was to make his fortune from his knowledge of the Stanley secret—the knowledge he had gained from the document in Hagar's strong box. Luke Lovell realized at last the source of the dead Matt Harding's gypsy wealth that now was Hagar's, and which since Hagar's sudden affliction no one knew the biding place of.

One thing Lovell felt sure of was that this wealth had not been decreased under Hagar's stewardship while same. Wherever the treasure was it was not in Hagar's brass bound cheat. Culy documents were in that chest, by, they were treasures of themselves. For this of these old papers especially had set forth plainly the fact that Hagar's long deal husband, the greedy Matt Harding, had trafficked with the great folks of Fairfax in his own flesh and blood. Here was a fortune to be obtained by him-self, as it had been obtained by Matt Harding, Luke Lovell thought. And he limped away unseen from the destroyed gypsy camp, and trudged resolutely to Fairfax. some eight or ten miles away.

There was no one at Stanley Hall to pay him for keeping or telling the Stanley segret, but Luke Lovell knew enough of the Stanleys and their feuds to realize his best market would be with Blair Stanley's mother. If Arthur Stanley, so-called, was Hagar's son, a gypsy changeling, then Blair Stanley was the real heir to the Stanley earldom, to which, according to the old family tradition, the heir was c manded to carry the diamond from the

But at the portals of the home of Blair Stanley's mother, the proud, cold widow would hold no traffic with the sinister greay who clamored at her threshold with a secret to sell. She ordered him to begone, and professed no interest in the ware

aged though he was in his first bold bid for the fortune he had believed was within his grasp, had no intention of shouting his secret from the housetops. He realized its only value was in his keeping it, and being paid, and heavily, to keep it. He must find some one who would pay—this some one would be Blair Stanley, he did not

But if Blair Stanley's mother had refused to traffic with the sinister gypsy, she was shrewd enough to surmise the secret that had become a living thing again after lying dormant for eighteen years.

Why had her husband set oft alone to meet his death in the mountains the day after Col. Stanley had died, eighteen years ago? Why had Dr. Lee adopted the gypsy woman's daughter a few months since? Why had this gypsy woman returned after all these years, in the guise of a woman of means, and taken Stanley hall? Why had she come with proofs of Blair's guilt of the murder of Dr. Lee, and proffered her silence in exchange for social recognition by the proud families of Fairfax for this girl?

And now that this gypsy woman was crazed, and all fear of her son's guilt being known, for the time being at least, Mrs. Stanley resolved to take advantage of situations as she suspicioned them. If this girl was the real heir, the missing heir of Stanley hall, of which there had been vague whispers for years, why not prepare for and fortify against any possible disgrace that might threaten through her son's rash and dreadful deed-the murder of Dr. Lee?

Mrs. Stanley resolved to make friends with Hagar's supposed daughter. If Arthur Stanley, so-called, was not the right-ful heir, Blair Stanley was. But this left



UNLESS YOU LEAVE MY PREMISES THIS INSTANT, I SHALL HAVE YOU ARRESTED.



IN VAIN HE PROTESTS.

fact that he had been the genius of the tandslide. It had been a fatal success. Ho affected the philosophy of the gypsies in the matter, and agreed with them that somehow good had come out of the general destruction, even it were only their and his ruffian rabble, the tramps,

Acknowledged as their princess and reigning over them as regent flicted Hagar Esther appointed a head man from the gipsies in the place of the de-posed and canished Lovell, and returned with Hager and Quabba to Stanley hall, which was still held by Hagar on the terms of lease she had taken from the receiver in bankruptcy for the Tugitive Arthur Stanley, still fleeing from justice, wrongfully under the onus of being the murderer

Luke Lovell, when he recovered coisciousness, drew himself from the hollow beside the new righted van. He had no lu-

of Dr. Lec.

he hinted he had for sale.

Ellen Stanley was, in her austere way, as unscrupulous in her family ambitieven her husband, the grim, cold Judge Lamar Stanley, had been. But she would have no traffic with such as Luke Lovell. She realized only too well that once such a creature had her in his power, even as a confident, his dominion would be, as is always the dominion of the ignorant, brutal and untenable. So Blair's mother dismissed the chagrined gypsy in cold disdain. She would be no confederate and yet the victim of the exactions that she instinctively knew would follow any association with any secret with him.

"If you have any secret to sell, take It to some other market," said the Widow Stanley with cold hauteur. "Unless you leave my premises this instant I shall have you arrested and committed for attempted blackmail! Shout your secret from the housetops if you please. I am not conthe girl heir to Stanley hall, and all could be conserved and all be well if Blair might return and marry Esther. Even though

Hagar recovered her faculties, she must remain silent as to Blair's guilt were he Esther's husband, thought Mrs. Stanley. As for Arthur Stanley, so-called, there was slight fear of his returning and asserting his claims to the Stanley earldom and the diamond from the sky. The shrewd mother of Blair Stanley guessed now the true cause of Arthur's flight and continued absence. It was because he also had tearned the Stanley secret.

At Stanley hall Esther, made a woman and resolute by all the tragic occurrences that of late had befallen her, resolved it was her duty to examine further into the documents in Hagar's brass bound box. Esther had endeavored vainly to lift the cloud from Hagar's mind by earnest ine quiries and kindly beseechings. But, as one in a daze, Hagar would only rouse from her reverles and moan, "My son, give me back my son, my little babe!"

Then Eather read the documents. The proof was plain. She was in her rightful place at Stanley hall, for she was Eather Stanley. But she resolved, through the love she bore for him she had known as Arthur Stanley, that she would take the secret to the grave. She would spare Arthur the shame she knew his proud spirit would feel. What to her was place and position here in Fairfax among a proud people who, so far as their women folk concerned, had estractized and ignored her?

Yet when we are young we have our hopes and dreams. Esther's hope dream was the return of Arthur, the sharing of the secret with him, and his love. Then all would be well. So it was that Esther was not wholly surprised when Blair Stanley's mother called at Stanley hall and proffered her friendship and as-There were no confidences e changed between them. Esther suspected that Blair's mother vaguely knew, but in her loneliness, and having no friend save the humble though devoted Quabba, Esther was glad to accept the proffered friendship of her austere kinswoman, though neither

spoke of the tie. Mrs. Stanley suggested that Hagar be taken to Richmond for treatment for her mental affliction. She also insisted that Esther should go to Richmond and be introduced into the best circles there by

Mrs. Burton Randolph. Quabba had been left behind at Stanley hall, but Quabba suspicioned that Blair's mother was an old foe with a new face of friendship. As always, he resolved to guard Esther with his ever eager though humble efforts, and Esther and Hagar with Mrs. Stanley were not long in Richmond before the faithful Quabba followed.

Mrs. Randolph had suggested to Blair's mother, when she found Mrs. Stanley desired her son's return, to consult with that astute private detective, Tom Blake, in settling the claims that were against the

Blake effected a conference between Blair's mother and Abe Bloom, the gambling housekeeper, who held the bad check for \$2,000 he had cashed for Blair, and who was the most pressing claimant against him. At this conference, although the accusation was not made, Mrs. Stanley soon surmised that Blake and Bloom knew of Blair's guilt of the murder of Dr. Lee. It was from Blake and Bloom, through the agency of the inky thumb print on the bad check, that the guilt had been established, his mother soon inferred. She acso surmised that it was from this source Hagar had obtained her proofs. In her

desert. He had meant to ware the transbut they had imagined him a desposario single handedly attempting a holdup and had thrown him off.

His horse, as all horses he hand wd. "-. him. The faithful and affection at roused him by nosing at him. Arthur stunned, mounted his affectionate footed friend and galloped after he r At the top of the grade the ambushed bers halted the express with an share on the track too great to be clabed engineer endeavoring to pass through



WITH A GLAD CRY SHE RAN TO THE WINDOW, AND WAVED A WELCOME TO QUABBA BELOW.

present condition Hagar was oblivious of such matters now. The only two, then, in all the world who knew were the detective and the gambling house keeper.

It was not necessary to enter into any detailed arrangements. Mr. Bloom was sententious and explicit.

"You make good this burn check of your son's," he said, "and me and Blake won't say nothing or couse your son any trouble. But there's one thing else. I've got to have this big stone what you aristocrats of Fairfax county call 'the diamond from the sky.' My brother advanced money on it, an even if he hadn't, that's my price keeping my mouth shut," he added, "and I'll see that Blake here says nothing,

"But the diamond has disappeared. We don't know where it is," said Mrs. Stanley coldly, though in her heart she raged at the presumption of the grasping, vulgar

"It'll turn up-them big stones always that's my price!" retorted Mr. Abe Bloom, "If it ever turns up you Stanleys can replevin it. No one can dispute your title to it. 'there nin't another one like it in the world. But when you Stanleys get it, it comes to me! That's understood and agreed, ch. Blake?"

There was a strange, imperturbable gleam in the keen eyes of the detective, who had maintained his usual taciturnity during this strange conference, but he Yes, that's understood and agreed."

Reaching Richmond, it had been no trouble for Quabba, at his old occupation of organ grinder, to find the house of Mrs. Burton Randolph, where he knew Esther was stopping. He had just reached the house, and had just been ordered to move on by a passing policeman, when a taxicab e up and Blake and Bloom alighted and entered the Randolph residence.

This visitation was such a surprise to the policeman that he readily vouched the in-formation as to who these individuals were, when Quabba inquired.

"Them?" said the policeman. "Them's two of the wisest guys in Richmond-Tom Blake, who runs the Blake Detective agency, and Abe Bloom, the biggest gambler in this burg. I wonder what they are doing calling on this grande dame, Mrs. Burton Randolph! Maybe Abe Bloom and Tom Blake are going into society!"

Then, ordering Quabba to move on again, he moved on himself. Quabba with his menkey and organ

moved on, but only to the side of the house. A detective and a gambling house keeper? These were strange visitors indeed, and, suspecting the motives of Mrs. Stanley's sudden patronage of Esther as he did, Quabba squatted close by the low window of the reception room and Hstened. overheard enough to realize that Biair Stanley's return was being arranged, and he knew this boded no good to his fair young mistress.

After the detective and gambler had departed. Quabba sent his ambassador and collector of external revenue, Clarence, the monkey, up the wistaria vines to the upper chamber, which he surmised might Esther's. He was right in his surmisc. Esther, who, like Mrs. Randolph, had withdrawn when visitors on private business had been announced for Mrs. Stanley, was

The chattering of the monkey on her window sill roused Esther from a reverie of Arthur, and with a glad cry she ran to the window and hugged the affectionate little benst and waved a welcome to the smiling Quabba below. Then Quabba laid his finger to his lips as a sign of secrecy. yanked the string to recall his ambassador, ad departed.

Beside the track in the glaring California desert, Arthur Stanley, or, as he calls himself, "John Powell," lay stunned after be ing thrown from the Overland limited, which he had boarded from horseback as

When Arthur arrived upon the scene two robbers were in the express our and to a were going through the Pullmans. Another had compelled the fireman to 11couple the locomotive and, covering the engineer, had made him drive the deached machine up the track some distance from the standing train.

Scarce knowing what he did, Arthur en'. loped by and, mounting the engine at the end of the tender from his horse's but to grappled with the lone robber covering in engineer. A desperate strangle fall wed by the furnace door. Scining a farma wrench, the engineer aimed a blow at the robber struggling with Ashur, but the blow missed foe and hit friend, and Arthur was stretched sensoless on the firing hand The robber, with a curse, jumped from the engine and ran, rejoining his comman-

In one of the Pullmans, Vivian Marston, who was now Mrs. Blair Stanley—the traveling as "Mr. and Mrs. Guy Peyton were among those held at pistol's p An envious woman passenger to whom Vivian had shown the diamend from sky had betrayed the fact she possessed even curses-curses that were chorused 'bore off the great gem with their other booty. Laden with a sack of valuables, no l taking also \$100,000 in bank notes from the express messenger, the robbers dec and the

Within a few hours the sheriff and has posse of deputies and railroad detects to were hot on the trail, and "John Power. sheep herder, after being Honized a feet brief moments, was back at his fonety ac-

Vivian, despoiled of the fewel for which she would have risked her soul, reproach herself and her raging bridegroom that they did not die gloriously in defending it. In her bitter rage Vivian taunts Blan by telling him she only married him to grant the diamond, and now that it was gone ho must go and regain it, of her he more In vain he protests. She threatens to give nim over to the police, and deserts him at Los Angeles, and wires to Abe Bloom ... Richmond telling of the loss of the dia-mond, and asking for funds. The deserted and raging Blair pawns what possessions the train robbers have left bim, and, under his assumed name of Poyton, hides in a mean hotel, after writing to his relative, Mrs. Burton Randolph, to betercode for him with his mother-with what results we

Far off in the desert fastnesses the pursuit of the posse after the train redders is hotly on. A shot, and the reaction saddle of the fleeing outlaws is empty. But as the outlaw falls the diamond from the sky, that he has clawed out from the sack of valuables, flies from his now nervelocahand and lies glittering but unnoticed by a clump of cacti ca the coase thunders by Another shot going how, and the fore-most outlaw drops from his saddle. Au-other shot and his ridorless horse drops dead in its tracks. As this horse falls, he treasure sack with the bank notes falls alf under the dying animal. The bulk its prostrate body covers the treasure sack of bank notes, and masks it from your of the posse that gallops almost over the dead horse's hoofs as the pursuit of the three

surviving desperadoes goes on.
A month later "John Powell," sacep herder, is sent to the desert to find a strayed flock. Beneath the skeleton of a buzzards' feast, a dead horse, he finds the stolen treasure. In a wild treasy of hysterical delight "John Powell" remembers "Monte Cristo," which, as the will young master of Stanley hall, he had read with greedy engerness. And so, like mond Dantes, he stands erect and cries, in the burning desert waste, "The would in

The diamond is lying near; it ricame a the sun on the desert sand, among raville snakes and cacti, but "John Powell," blinded with the treasure that he grasps from the bones of a mouldering horse, not. And there the diamond lies: Who will get, it next?

[To be continued.]